LIFESTYLE / C1

Lost Juan Luna work found, to be auctioned off by Christie's

LEARNING / H1

Cost-savers for schools in these hard times

COMPLETE LIST AT WWW.INQUIRER.NET

17,816 elementary teachers and 18,801 high school teachers passed the board exams given in September, the PRC said.

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Monday, November 17, 2008 ★ 13 sections / Vol. 23 / No. 345 P18 website: www.inquirer.net

First round to Bolante in Senate probe—Satur

By Desiree Caluza *in Baguio, Benguet* and Gil C. Cabacungan *in Manila*

JOCELYN "JOC-JOC" BOLANTE WON THE first round last week in his battle against his Senate tormentors who obviously did not do their homework during all the years that he had snubbed them.

This was the observation of Bayan Muna

SENATE/A11

In the face of crisis, RP whistles in dark

By Amando Doronila

ANALYSIS

THE PHILIPPINES LAST WEEK SOUGHT refuge behind an International Monetary Fund (IMF) report that the country was "not immune" to the worst financial crisis to hit the global economy since the Great Depression, but was "less vulnerable" to it because it had taken fundamental macroeconomic reforms following the Asian financial crisis in 1997.

In a press briefing, IMF mission chief Lee Il-houng said the Philippine economy might grow at a slower pace of 4.4 percent this year and 3.5 percent next year—lower than the earlier IMF projection of 3.8 percent.

The IMF forecast for this year is in line with the government's latest forecast of 4.3-4.8 percent, but less optimistic than the 3.7-4.7 percent official forecast for next year.

In a separate report, the World Bank said the Philippines was "in a better position" to cope with a global slowdown despite prospects of slower growth and inflation. But it predicted that countries that relied heavily on remittances

IN THE FACE/A22

World leaders vow fast action on crisis

WASHINGTON—WORLD LEADERS on Saturday pledged rapid action to rescue a weakening global economy from the worst financial crisis in over 60 years and agreed to give emerging nations more say in running financial affairs.

The Group of 20 (G-20) leaders from major industrialized and developing countries set out plans to toughen oversight for major global banks, study limits on banker pay and try for a breakthrough by year end in global trade talks—all part of a roadmap to rebuild an international financial system crippled by the credit crisis.

"We must lay the foundation for reform to help ensure that a global crisis such as this one does not happen again," they said in a statement after their first-ever summit.

The G-20 leaders vowed to make progress before a second summit by the end of April.

US President George W. Bush called the meeting a success, saying the G-20 had agreed to carry out policies promoting growth and free markets.

"It makes sense to come out of here

WORLD/A11

US PRESIDENT Bush waves to the crowd during a G-20 assembly. With him are (back row) British Prime Minister Brown, German Chancellor Merkel and Spanish Prime Minister Zapatero; (front row) Indonesian President Yudhoyono and Brazilian President Da Silva.

'Euro' big fish sought

De la Paz shielding superiors, says solon

By Desiree Caluza, *Inquirer Northern Luzon* and Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and Jocelyn R. Uy

RETIRED POLICE DIRECTOR Eliseo de la Paz has offered himself as a "punching bag" to shield his bosses from prosecution arising from the Moscow fund mess, lawmakers said yesterday.

Bayan Muna Rep. Satur Ocampo said that De la Paz's superiors—Interior Secretary Ronaldo Puno and Director General Jesus Verzosa of the Philippine National Police—should take the blame.

"De la Paz was prepared to be the shock absorber for the faults of his bosses. The [PNP] delegation could not have traveled to Moscow with that much money if [its members] were not authorized by Puno and Verzosa," Ocampo said on Saturday in Baguio, Benguet.

An eight-member PNP delegation attended the 77th Interpol General Assembly in St. Petersburg early last month.

Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago,

EURO/A11

UNUSUAL GRASSLAND Marines, together with operatives of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency, uproot fully grown marijuana plants during a raid in Maimbung, a known Abu Sayyaf stronghold in Sulu.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PDEA

Freed aid worker dreamed of her angels

By Julie S. Alipala *Inquirer Mindanao*

ZAMBOANGA CITY—STRONG FAITH and prayers helped Merlie "Milet" Mendoza survive a 2-month ordeal at the hands of the notorious kidnap gang Abu Sayyaf.

"It's been a journey of many miracles," said Mendoza, a humanitarian aid worker who was freed on Friday on Basilan Island after a P1-million ransom was reportedly paid to her kidnappers.

"The Psalms consoled me ... this particular verse 'even though I walk in the valley of darkness, I fear no evil because the Lord is with me,'" Mendoza told the Inquirer on Saturday before boarding a flight to Manila.

She refused to talk about her captivity, saying she wanted to keep it to herself "until the proper time." At the airport, she covered her face with a veil to avoid reporters. She said she wanted privacy.

Mendoza was abducted along with colleagues Esperanzita Hupida and four other aid workers on Sept. 15 outside Isabela City in Basilan. Hupida was released two weeks ago. The others escaped earlier.

"I am very thankful for the many

FREED/A4

Marijuana grown in Abu hideout, say Marines

By Arlyn dela Cruz *Contributor*

DEEP IN THE ABU SAYYAF LAIR IN Maimbung, Sulu, joint forces of the Philippine Marines and the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) uprooted some 100,000 fully grown marijuana plants measuring at least eight feet in height.

Officials said the discovery of the plantation in the raid carried out on Nov. 8 bolstered suspicions of Abu Sayyaf involvement in "narco-terrorism," a term that covers such acts as engaging in terrorist activities using funds obtained from illegal drugs.

The plantation could be just the tip of the iceberg, other officials said.

Col. Ariel Caculitan, commander of the Sulu-based 4th Marine Battalion, told this reporter the operation was carried out like a combat mission since the area was a known lair of the Abu Sayyaf.

"We have long been suspecting that the (Abu Sayyaf) is involved in illegal drugs operations," he said.

Caculitan said the raiding teams acted on a tip from civilians.

He said the law enforcers were not discounting the possibility that "the (Abu Sayyaf) is protecting this mari-

MARIJUANA/A11

FOOD FOR THE SOUL Peace messenger Jayanti Kirplani distributes cookies to deaf schoolchildren in Quezon City.

LYN RILLON

Spiritual guru enables less abled to find peace

By Jocelyn R. Uy

A LONDONER, WHO WORKED IN A big architecture company, became blind and turned into a feeble and bitter man. Somehow, he found his way to a meditation workshop by respected spiritual teacher Jayanti Kirplani, who taught him how to "sparkle and shine" despite his broken body.

By looking inward, the blind man was able to "detach" himself from his physical body and "recognize" his inner value, Kirplani said.

Transformed, the blind man became a confident and positive man and regained control of his life.

"The less abled have very little understanding of the value of the self because the society has marginalized them," Kirplani said, addressing an assembly of deaf students, their families, educators and service providers in Intramuros, Manila, on Wednesday.

Kirplani is the director for Europe and the Middle East of Brahma Kumaris (BK), a United Nations peace messenger organization. She gave the inspirational talk, "Spiritual Approach to Disability," during the two-day national conference on sustainable partnership for deaf transformation hosted by the Department of Labor and Em-

SPIRITUAL/A6

Palace wants more feel-good stories in media

By Christian V. Esguerra

MORE "FEEL-GOOD" STORIES, please.

Malacañang wants the local media to play up more positive stories about President Macapagal-Arroyo, who has received a

PALACE/A6

Second FrontPage

SUPERLOTTO 6/49

P73,906,383.60

21 RP seamen seized; 22 arrested

Somali pirates take 2 ships; Nigeria nabs Pinoys with stolen crude

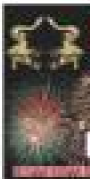
SOMALI GUNMEN HAVE HIJACKED A JAPANESE cargo ship and a Chinese fishing vessel with a total of 21 Filipino crew members on board, while Nigeria's military arrested 22 Filipino seamen on suspicion of stealing crude oil, wire reports said yesterday.

33 hijacked since last year

Oil production cut

GMA to raise proposal to help Asean at Apec

Presidential debates illegal, says poll lawyer



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MAKATI ORTIGAS TOMAS MORATO ALABANG CONGRESSIONAL PAMPANGA CEBU

Women all over are all praises for the benefits of this non-surgical miracle in weight and inch-loss! Find out what some of them have to say about FMS.

"Thanks to FMS I got my figure back, and it's even better than it was before I got pregnant! It really helped me lose weight effortlessly and quicker than I thought! FMS is so amazing that I highly recommend it to anyone who wants to see results in just 3 weeks!"
- Dawn Zulueta - Lagdameo

"I really like the FMS because it helped me lose my post-pregnancy weight! I was surprised that after a month, wala na ang na-lose ko!"
- Carlene Aguilar

"People think I've always been slim, pero my metabolism slowed down when I got older. FMS helps me maintain my figure!"
- Carmi Martin

"I tried liposuction before, and when I gained weight again, the fat went to different parts of the body. It didn't look good! With FMS, the weight loss is proportioned, so it looks natural!"
- Aiko Melendez

"After only a month of doing FMS, I've already lost so much weight! And the weight loss is proportioned too. Plus it's non-surgical so there are no risks!"
- Bernadette Allyson

"What I like about FMS is that it really works on losing the weight on your entire body. I used to have a puson problem, big thighs, big legs... FMS helped me lose my weight all over!"
- Lyn Ching-Pascual

"When I gained weight from my pregnancy, I didn't want to do anything invasive like surgery. And I've heard so many horror stories about diet pills! With FMS, I was able to lose the weight safely and effortlessly!"
- Cristina Gonzales-Romualdez

Freed aid worker dreamed of her angels

From page A1

small miracles. I dreamed of my angels," she said, specifically referring to Fr. Rey Roda of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate who was killed while resisting kidnappers at his parish in Tawi-Tawi in January.

"Father Rey appeared in my dreams. Many of my friends appeared in my dreams. I could sense their prayers," Mendoza said.

"My respect for my friends, especially for my Muslim friends, will not change. I have been welcomed to their homes and they have shown me what Islam is really all about and it helped me to become a better Christian," she said.

SWEET freedom for Merlie "Milet" Mendoza (left) and Esperancita Hupida.

During her captivity the military and police opted not to launch rescue operations. Even the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), which announced that it would help in securing the safety of Mendoza, was cautious in its every move.

She said she appreciated the decision of Maj. Gen. Ben Dolorfino, Marine commandant, and Col. [illegible], First Marine Brigade commander, not to go after the kidnappers. "I think it was the best thing to do because it would have been difficult for all of us," she said.

Military operations

Had military operations been launched, Mendoza said it would have been "like dying a thousand deaths," knowing that residents would again be displaced.

She said her freedom was "a very sweet moment, a defining moment."

"I wish this freedom to also be realized for those who are struggling for peace. We should all pray for peace," she said.

"We should work for the guarantee for fundamental freedoms—freedom from fear, freedom from want, freedom from humiliation. If there is no guarantee, we are not able to achieve peace, never."

Basilan Vice Gov. Al Rashid Sakalahul credited what he called "the unified pressure from the military, police, MILF, municipal and provincial government officials that led to the release."

"Everyone has its own contribution. What is important is that the captives are free except for one," Sakalahul said, referring to Josef Anthony [illegible], a nursing student of Ateneo de Zamboanga University who was reportedly kidnapped outside his house at [illegible] village on Oct. 17.

Mendoza and [illegible] were brought to Basilan by his captors.

More kidnappings seen

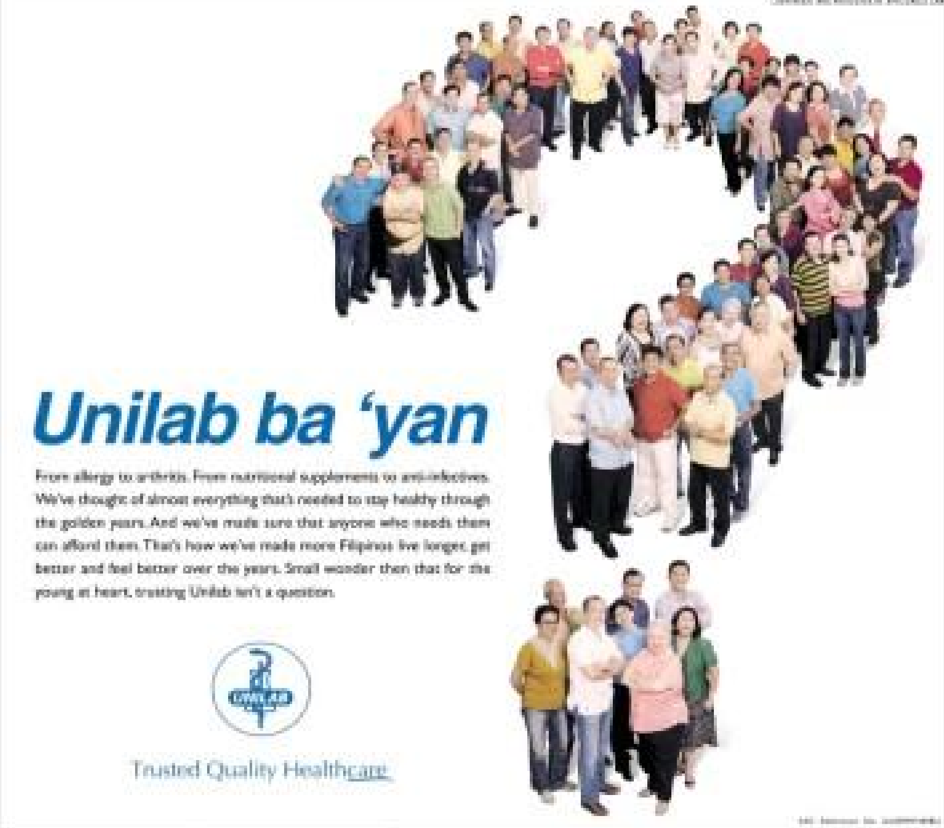
Although local authorities denied knowing whether ransom was paid for her release, Mendoza admitted "some cash" was handed to her kidnappers.

Mendoza said she learned about her scheduled release on Friday. The vice governor got hold of the victim at around 11 p.m. that day in Albarka town. He then brought Mendoza to his family's farm in Lantawan town.

Dolorfino said all NGOs in Basilan had been asked to coordinate their movements so they could be provided security. He said the Abu Sayyaf bandits were reportedly planning to do more kidnappings, based on the initial debriefing conducted with Mendoza.

Mendoza confirmed the information to the [illegible], her [illegible].

Dolorfino admitted that the Abu Sayyaf kidnappers had become bolder as "they have money for their logistics."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Schools to teach own version of sex ed, says bishop

By Dona Pazzibugan and Leila B. Salaverria

Lighten up, workers advise GSIS execs

Migrants decry GMA plea in OFWs' case

Hogtied, blindfolded, beaten

Piecemeal approach

Palace wants more feel-good stories in media

[illegible]

[illegible]

Praises from abroad

[illegible]

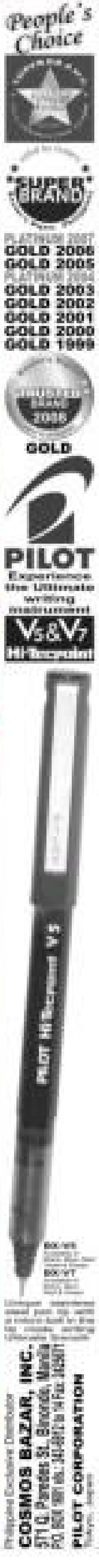
Effective communication

[illegible]

Spiritual guru ...

[illegible]

'Euro' big fish in Moscow fiasco sought



Tan lawyers want to speed up 21-yr-old case

Port of Manila collection up amid slowdown

DESPITE A SLOWING DOWN OF THE LOcal economy, the Port of Manila collected P20.2 billion in customs duties and taxes during the first 10 months of the year, 8.4 percent higher than its collection target of P[illegible].1 billion for the period.

In a press statement, Customs District Collector Horacio P. Suansing Jr. said the port collected P3 billion in surplus amount—the biggest among the country's 14 port districts—from January to October.

Stressing solid customs duties and taxes collected at the South Harbor and the Manila International Container Terminal accounted for 98 percent of the revenue generated by the Port of Manila.

The port district has so far met 88 percent of its annual target.

The customs district is expected to exceed its P44.5-billion target for the entire year as expected shipments peak in the last two months of the year.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION

Raiding the treasury

EDITORIAL

Strengthen our laws against perjury

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

Pathetic

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

Points for dialogue

SOUNDING BOARD

Fr. Joaquin G. Bernas, S.J.

[illegible]

Peace through human rights

COMMENTARY

Kristian Herbolzheimer

[illegible]

Walk the talk, congressmen

THE LONG VIEW

Manuel L. Quezon III

[illegible]

The Armed Forces take, the jail wardens give

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

[illegible]

Study N. Ireland peace model

LETTERS

Risks present in going organic

SC justice: No part in fertilizer fund

CAAP clarifies issues in PDI series

Across the NATION

Army officer held hostage by rebels

ZAMBOANGA CITY—AN ARMY SPECIAL FORCES officer who went missing more than a week ago is being held as a "prisoner of war" by the communist New People's Army, a rebel spokesman said Sunday.

[illegible]

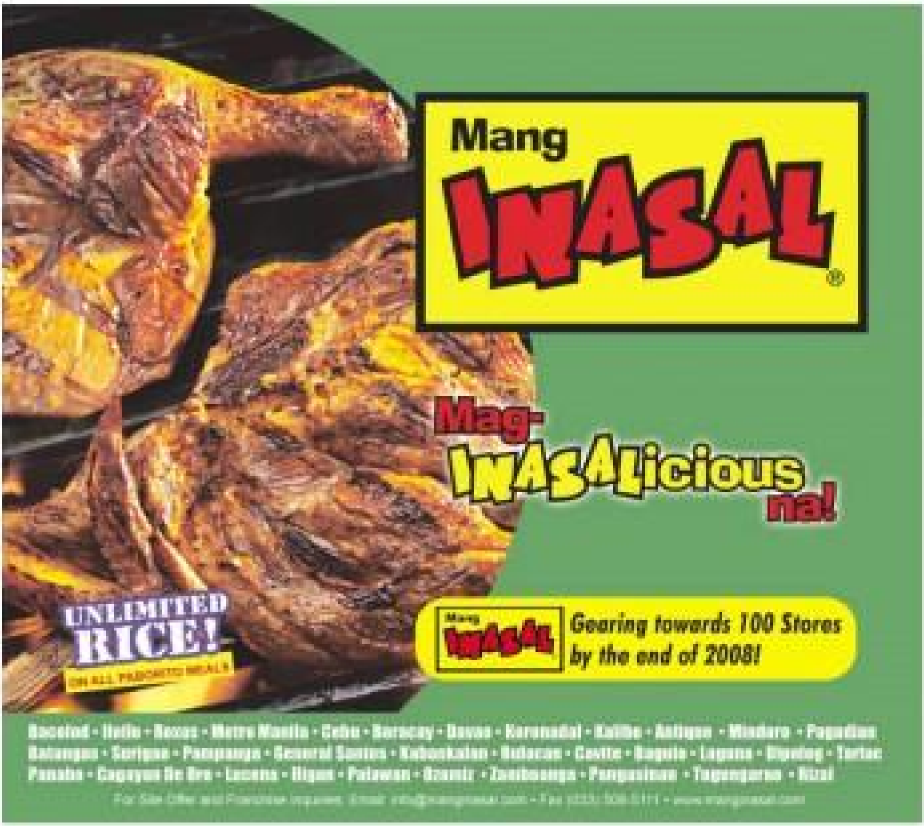
DOH to buy body freezer for hospital

[illegible]

Embarrassing

[illegible]

Rush approval of typhoon funds, solons urged



DILG orders resumption of services in Bataan

SUSPENDED Bataan Gov. Enrique Garcia Jr.

Tacloban plebiscite set Dec. 18

By Joey A. Gabieta, Inquirer Visayas

Info drive

National gov't to release P70M for Naga market

[illegible]

26 Subic residents displaced by Hanjin ask court for help

[illegible]

2 Army soldiers slain

[illegible]

Leyte takes over Palo beach resort built by Imelda

By Joey A. Gabieta
Inquirer Visayas

[illegible]

Private operation

[illegible]

FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2008

MEMBER AGENCIES

[illegible]

Metro Water Is Safe

Marijuana grown in Abu hideout, say Marines

NARCOTICS personnel join forces with the Marines during the raid in Maimbung, Sulu.

Plants valued at P40M

Destined for Europe

Chinese connection

First round to Bolante in Senate probe—Satur

Executive privilege

Street smart

House probe

In the face of crisis, RP whistles in the dark

Take hard medicine

Layoffs

Long-lasting crisis

Key points in the G-20 action plan

Root causes of crisis

Actions to stabilize banks, boost growth

Better regulation

Financial Stability Forum

IMF, World Bank reforms

Trade agreement

World leaders vow fast action on crisis

Power shift begins

SPORTS

More Sports on A29 to A32

Cardona fires 42, lifts Texters; Kings score

Aplus METRO

DID YOU KNOW

13 hurt in another accident on Edsa

DON'T PEDESTRIANS HAVE RIGHTS, TOO?

Van flips over after losing wheel

By Nancy C. Carvajal

THE NUMBER 13 PROVED TO BE UNLUCKY FOR A group of people who sustained injuries when their vehicles figured in an accident on the northbound lane of North Avenue, Edsa, at 6:40 a.m. yesterday.

Kin of former PNP chief killed

By Nancy C. Carvajal

A RELATIVE OF A FORMER Philippine National Police chief was reportedly shot dead by a policeman who was called in to break up a fight inside a bar in Quezon City yesterday.

Metro Citizen's call

Illegal gambling on Don Quijote Street

Busted water pipe in Barangay San Antonio

Traffic mess at Quinta market area

Catch basin in Fairview

MetroBriefs

Third suspect in P500,000 heist falls

[illegible]

Pasig police chief vows to solve robbery

[illegible]

Joint art exhibit ongoing until Nov. 30

[illegible]

Congo's riches plundered by renegade troops

LA surrounded by wildfires

Post: US, Pakistan tacitly agree on Predator strikes

Left untouched, world's largest mangrove forest recovering fast

The WORLD

Deaths in China milk mess go uncounted

LITI VILLAGE, CHINA—LI XIAOKAI DIED OF KIDney failure on the old wooden bed in the family farmhouse, just before dawn on a drizzly Sept. 10.

Obama may be forced to give up BlackBerry

Car bombing kills 7 in Iraqi town

In Burma, jail time for using the Internet

SPORTS

RP chessers rise to tie for 14th

DARWIN LAYLO: Second win

SHAKEY'S V-LEAGUE

Lady Stags end Adamson run

Close brush for Nutri-C cagebelles

Gallego, Luat dispute Bacolod leg crown

Tananta tops Holcim tilt

Tams gain crossover games

NFGB 'Bakbakan' semis today

POWERADE Launched New Variant at UAAP Game

Dolphins sink Mariners anew

By Marc Anthony Reyes

CEBU MADE SHORT WORK OF MUNtinlupa to firm up its hold of top spot ...

Ateneo cagers, tossers triumph

Only 160 can join golf duel

IT'S THE SEASON FOR A BRAND NEW KIA!

Columbian Autocar Corporation (CAC), exclusive distributor of Kia vehicles in the country, spices up its Trade-Up Program this holiday season with additional Trade-up Support for car owners wanting to upgrade to a brand new Kia Picanto, Rio, Sportage, Sorento, Carens, Carnival or K2700.

Designed to make the car buying process a hassle-free experience, Kia dealerships nationwide accepts any used vehicle, regardless of model and make, and apply the appraised trade-in value towards the purchase of any brand new Kia. The program facilitates the trade-in and buying process by conducting all the required transactions in the dealer area. The sweetener is Kia's additional trade-up support which in effect will increase the trade-in value of the used vehicle, and reduces the cash requirement on down payment needed for the desired Kia model. This lets you and your loved ones experience the joys of owning and driving a brand new Kia and do away with the usual headaches associated with owning undependable and problematic used vehicles. This gives you another great reason to celebrate the season.

Felix J. Mabilog, Jr., CAC president and chief operating officer said, "Kia's Trade-Up Program has grown in popularity in the local automotive market since its introduction earlier this year. The motoring public has begun to notice Kia's efforts in product and brand improvement reflected in its advanced and stylish designs, better performance, improved efficiency and durability and over all value for money."

Based on the latest sales report from the Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines, Inc. (CAMPI), Kia has been capturing the eyes, hearts and trust of the motoring public as it continues to post the highest sales growth in the industry for 2008. From January to October sales report, it posted a 83% sales growth compared to the same period last year.

Kia's local performance has also been recognized by Kia's Global Network. CAC has recently been inducted to Kia's elite Zenith Club, a distinguished and highly-esteemed group exclusive only to the winners of the Kia Distributor of the Year distinction which CAC has received also this year. The award recognizes CAC's outstanding contributions and excellence of the highest degree as one of Kia's top distributors in 2008.

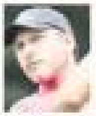
For more information about Kia, its products and the Trade-Up Deals, visit any of Kia's more than 50 dealerships nationwide or visit www.kia.com.ph. Test drive a Kia today!

SPORTS

Cavs make it seven straight; Celtics score

Like Michael Jordan

'Golfing gods' help Singh beat Harrington, Els


SINGH

Coyiuto reaches PCA 14-under tennis final

Gallego, Luat clash ...

Editor Raul D. Marcelo • Associate Editor Corazon E. Marcena

BUSINESS

6 local banks vie for Philam savings bank

Potential buyers include Sy, Gokongwei, Gotianun

By Doris C. Dumlao

SIX LOCAL BANKS, INCLUDING those owned by taipans Henry Sy, John Gokongwei and Andrew Gotianun, are in the short list of bidders for AIG's consumer banking unit Philam Savings Bank and auto financing company Polaris Finance and Leasing Inc.

The potential bidders, which have until today to submit a definitive proposal, are Asia United Bank, Banco de Oro Unibank, China Banking Corp., Chinatrust (Philippines) Commercial Bank, East West Bank and Robinsons Savings Bank, banking sources disclosed to the Inquirer.

The sources said beleaguered US financial giant AIG, which has put its Philippine assets on the block as part of a global streamlining program, would make a decision and pick from among Philam Savings' subsidiary soon.

AIG's consumer units have a combined book value of P1.6 billion... P2.3 billion for Philam Savings and P300 million for Polaris Finance, the sources said. As a rule of thumb, sell-

LOCAL B2

CURRENCIES

PESO-DOLLAR RATE

49.30

As of Fri. Nov. 14, 2008

IN THIS ISSUE

BSP seen keeping rates unchanged

THE BANGKO SENTRAL ng Pilipinas is widely expected to keep its key interest rates steady during the policy-setting meeting this Thursday to avoid stoking inflation after the recent 1-percentage-point cut in the reserve requirement, analysts said.

[illegible]

BSP B3

Pricey coffee helps put Mindanao kids in school

By Daxim L. Lucas

WHEN STARBUCKS FIRST LANDED on local shores a little over a decade ago, its outlets were hangouts for the "yuppi" crowd of all ages.

At the outset, many people would frequent its outlets to see and be seen, instead of to enjoy the coffee.

After all, paying P100 for a cup of coffee was practically unheard of at the time.

Since that time, however, Starbucks has steadily moved from being a "yuppi" experience to a social experience, in more ways than one.

While few of its patrons realize it, the coffee chain has been an ardent supporter of education-oriented social causes for the benefit of underprivileged Filipinos in Mindanao.

CORPORATE CITIZEN

"Globally our thrust is really toward education, and that is reflected in all of the corporate social responsibility (CSR) efforts of the company," said Rustan Coffee Corp. CSR manager [illegible] Perez.

Rustan Coffee is the local franchise holder of the global Starbucks chain, and now has 151 outlets nationwide, recently branching out into major cities across the country.

Starbucks' most visible education-oriented effort—although probably not obvious to its patrons—is its annual planner promo, which it holds during the holiday season.

According to Perez, a portion of the company's earnings from the promo is handed over to the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef), which, in turn, manages a daycare program for indigent children on behalf of the company.

"We work in coordination with them," Perez said. "Unicef is in charge of implementing the project which we fund."

This year, Starbucks is expected to donate P2 million to Unicef from this program—an amount that has already doubled from the company's initial commitment at the start of the daycare program five years ago.

Perez explained that Starbucks' initial commitment allowed Unicef to set up five daycare centers in Mindanao, mainly in the depressed areas in the Davao and Sarangani provinces.

Recently, however, the coffee chain shifted strategies in order to make its funds more effective in reaching their target communities.

"We shifted to a home-based system which allows us to reach 80 households with the same amount," she said. The effectiveness of the old system was limited, mainly by complaints from beneficiaries about the distance they had to travel just to bring their children to the daycare facilities.

Under the new system, Unicef trains daycare administrators to set up facilities in their homes, which are closer to the target communities, thus cutting down costs and making the program more effective.

On top of this, the company also tries to bring the education concept closer to its clients in Manila through its "Dialogues at Starbucks" program. The scheme is a CSR, networking and consumer education program in one, which is held in various outlets of the coffee chain.

During these events, the company invites personalities to give 60-minute talks aimed at engaging clients toward their varied causes.

"There are a wide array of topics from education to environmental protection to social issues," Perez said. "The goal is to bring people together and get them to discuss it among themselves."

Despite its unusual format, Perez explained that the program also falls within the company's [illegible] thrust.

She added that the company was also looking at other programs that would move from dole out system to ones that are more self-sustaining.

Indeed, for a company that is constantly demonized in the international press as being exploitative and profit-driven, Starbucks' local CSR initiatives are a good start.

A PORTION of the sales of Starbucks goes to the construction of daycare centers in depressed areas.

Clean air and livable cities

No Free Lunch

Cielito F. Habito

BAQ 2008

Counterintuitive truths

Poor and rich

6 local . . .

BOP surplus seen wiped out in '09

Higher outflow of foreign investments

By Doris C. Dumlao

ADB assures RP of assistance

By Michelle V. Remo

Infra, services, food top 'crisis investment' picks

By Daxim L. Lucas

FLI profit down 11.9% in 9 mos.

Bidding for 2 Napocor plants fails

By Abigail L. Ho

POWER SECTOR ASSETS AND LIABILITIES Management Corp. has declared a failed bidding for the [illegible] (MW) Aplaya and 22.5-MW General Santos [illegible] plant package.

[illegible]

Fil-Estate defers joint venture

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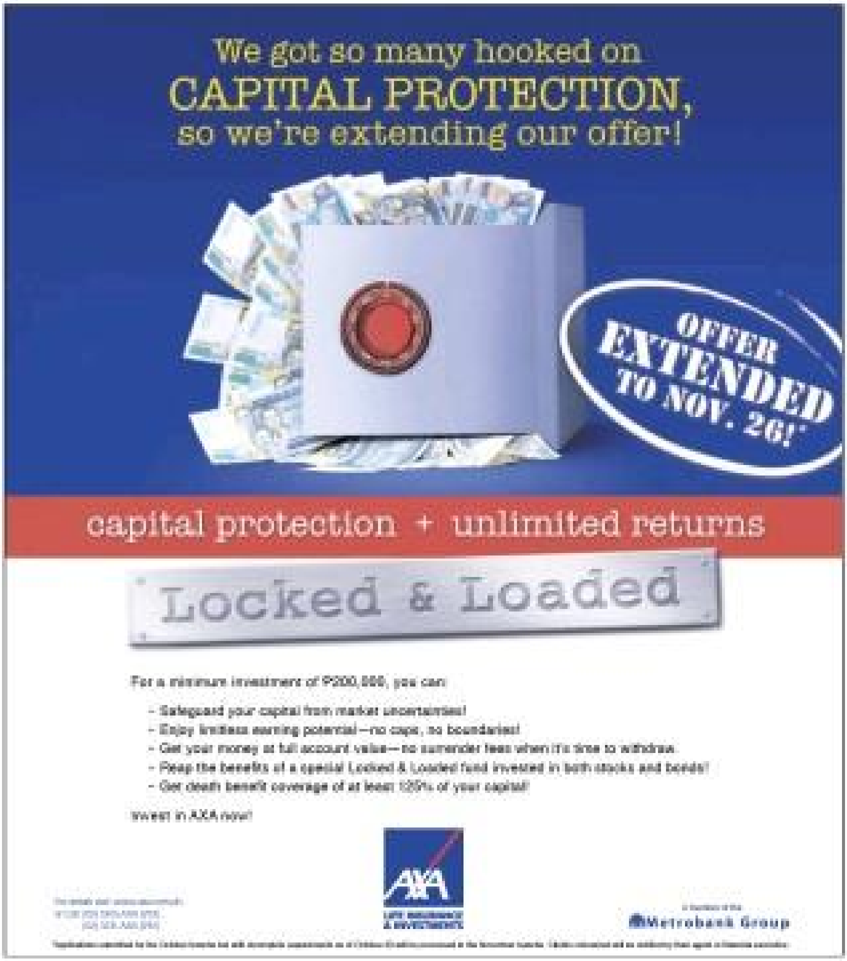

Benpres posted net loss of P841M in 9 months

By Elizabeth B. Lopez

BENPRES HOLDINGS CORP., THE flagship firm of the Lopez group for its investments in television, power distribution and power generation, reported a net loss of P841 million in the first nine months from a net income of P3.66 billion in the same period last year.

The loss was due to an 89-percent fall in its share in the net earnings of its subsidiaries and affiliates to P261 million from P2.21 billion, largely dragged by First Philippine Holdings Corp.'s net losses for the period, the company said in its report to the Philippine Stock Exchange.

FPHC reported a P264-million net loss during the nine-month period compared with a P3.76-billion net income in the same period last year due to the decrease in its share in the net earnings of First Gen Corp. and First Philippine Infrastructure, higher interest expenses due to higher debts and significant forex losses from the restatement of foreign-denominated loans. (The Inquirer earlier reported erroneously that FPHC posted only a decline in net income. The P3.6 billion cited in the story yesterday as FPHC's net income for the nine-month period pertained to net revenues, which fell 61 percent from P9.26 billion a year ago.)

Meantime, foreign exchange adjustments at the Benpres level resulted in a loss of P1.27 billion versus a gain of P824 million a year ago. The peso depreciated to 47.49 to a dollar as of September from P41.28 as of December 2007.

Benpres, however, reported revenues rose 14 percent to P16.54 billion in the first nine months from P14.51 billion in the same period last year.

Other income grew 335 percent mainly from a P779-million gain on the sale of its stake in Medical City in April 2008.

In addition, Benpres said there were gains during the period from the buyback of certain debt at a 46-percent discount.

Bayan Telecommunications Inc. recorded a net loss of P2.27 billion for the period, reversing the P569 million in net income in the same period last year due also to forex losses of P2.40 billion. Benpres said its investment in Bayan has been fully written off, which means it does not book any loss or income from the telephone firm.

First Philippine Infrastructure Inc. posted a net income of P806 million, 29-percent lower than the P1.13 billion last year mainly due to lower revenues and a forex loss this year.

Lower revenues were due to the 4-percent decrease in average daily traffic of the North Luzon Expressway as fuel prices increased 32 percent for the period. Toll rates were also reduced by an average of 3 percent beginning July 2008.

Rockwell Land Corp., meanwhile, reported a 5-percent jump in revenues mainly from sales of its One Rockwell residential condominium project.

G & W clubshares

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[illegible]

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[illegible]

BSP ...

From page B1

meeting on Nov. 20.

Only one respondent projected a 25-percentage point cut in the benchmark rate, citing the need for the central bank to stave off an economic slowdown and induce lending to perk up the economy.

To inject more liquidity into its banking system and cushion the impact of a global financial crisis, the BSP already trimmed the reserve requirement—the ratio of deposit and deposit substitutes that banks are required to keep in two-tiered ... [illegible] —to 19 percent from 21 percent effective last Friday. *Doris C. Dumlao*

Philippine Stock Exchange

[illegible]

Maybank

Currencies

[illegible]

British firm to invest $200M in biomass projects in RP

Security Bank posts 9-mo. profit of ₱1.72B

RFM net profit up 6.8% to ₱158.9M

NFA should stay out of rice marketing, says IMF

Agency urged to focus on price stabilization

Transco franchise bill seen signed soon

'Special funds' abolition sought

Easycall raising funds for projects

Abex at SMX commences Nov. 28

Blue Horizons once more RP's best

Baby's sweet ride with Combi

Valle Verde 5 Christmas Bazaar '08

Stock investors look for market 'bottom'

Circuit City faces tough odds

Berkshire boosts ConocoPhillips stake

Nokia sees mobile phone, gear market falling in '09

InfoTech

How green is your gadget?

BUSINESS desktop

By Raquel P. Gomez

IF YOU BOUGHT A gadget and it came wrapped in a compact box made of recycled paper, or a sleek printer that, to your surprise, contained recycled cartridges, chances are those products were made by IT companies that have adopted a "green" initiative.

"Going green" by implementing practices that will minimize the negative impact on the environment of electronic products and of the process of manufacturing them is now a serious mission of major IT companies like Intel and Hewlett Packard.

At the recently held forum "Greenergy 2008" in Makati, global chip maker Intel Philippines and leading PC vendor HP announced their "green" goals and provided updates on their green IT initiatives and products.

David Tan, managing director and general manager HP Technology Solutions Group, said HP planned to reduce energy consumption of its manufacturing plants by 16 percent by 2010. The company is also planning to recover two billion pounds of end-of-life computing and printing equipment for recycling by 2010.

HP products in the market that are labeled "green" or environment-friendly include the 2008 HP Business notebook PC line, which got a high Energy Star rating. "Illumi-Lite" displays or highly efficient backlit LED displays, longer battery life, recyclable parts, solid state drive that requires less energy are just some of the energy efficient features these notebooks offer.

HP Business desktops have Energy Star 4.0 rating for having features like solid state drive, "cool 'n quiet" technology that reduces processor heat, and energy-efficient processors and chipsets. All HP workstations are more than 90 percent recyclable. They feature a tool-less chassis design for quick and easy upgrade.

The company's Planet Partners Hardware Recycling Program recovers end-of-life computing products—cartridges, PCs, laptops, monitors, or handheld products of HP and other companies for recycling. The program operates in 40 countries and territories.

The one "green" technology to look forward to from HP is the "Halo studios"—virtual meeting rooms for people who will no longer have to go to their meeting places, thereby eliminating the need for transportation. Employing several technologies like high resolution LCD display panels, networking equipment, and video and sound technologies, the Halo studio is the future of business meetings and conferences, according to Tan. It is a collaborative project between HP and DreamWorks. These "meeting rooms" are already established in several countries.

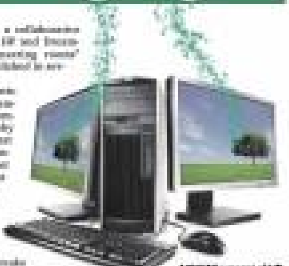
Intel's green mission has been embedded in the company's philosophy since 1995. Apart from making powerful and efficient processors that continue to shrink in size and consume less and energy, Intel has embarked on major initiatives to make manufacturing of its products "greener."

For example, its manufacturing facilities collect and reuse water, strictly implement gas emission standards and reduce the size of packaging materials.

Intel country manager Ricky Banaag said that when the company introduced Core 2 Duo chips in 2006, Intel had seriously focused on making energy-efficient processors. Intel's current crop of 45 nanometer Core 2 Duo chips are more energy efficient compared with previous Intel chips like Pentium D.

"By shrinking the processor, Intel has seen a huge benefit in terms of energy and environmental conservation. Two percent of global carbon emissions come from microprocessors," said Banaag.

Intel, which is a founding member of the Climate Savers Computing Initiative, plans to reduce by global-warming gas footprint by 20 percent and its energy consumption per chip by 5 percent by 2012. It also plans to reduce generation of chemical waste and water use per chip by 10 percent by 2012.



NINETY percent of HP business notebooks PCs are recyclable

Fuji Xerox's new printers go greener

ENTERPRISE CONTENT MANAGEMENT with eco-friendliness? Filipinos can now go greener and work from anywhere with Fuji Xerox's ApeosPort-III C3300/C2200/C2201 color multi-function printers (MFP).

The most eco-friendly multi-function printers, ApeosPort-III C3300/C2200/C2201 printers have a powerful platform that allows companies to build integrated enterprise-wide systems on top of the usual office printing, copying, scanning and faxing. They also have powerful cloud computing capabilities such as "follow me" printing, scanning and printing directly from enterprise content management systems, that help minimize the dependence on PCs throughout the network.

The third-generation MFP series has been recognized for its environmentally conscious features, winning the prestigious Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry Prize in the Eco Products Category at the 4th Eco-Products awards in Japan last year.

To help preserve the environment, the ApeosPort-III C3300/C2200/C2201 multi-function printers use lead-free shafts for their output unit, including the paper feeder. They use a newly developed plastic that comprises more than 20 percent of plant-derived constituents for the manufacture of moving parts in the machine, effectively reducing carbon dioxide emissions during production.

The printers have energy-saving controller, high-efficiency lamp and temperature controlling technology that reduces power consumption in sleep mode to just 2.2W, lower than that used by conventional MFPs.

Beyond eco-friendliness, the ApeosPort-III C3300/C2200/C2201 printers deliver the highest image quality of any LED-based office printer at 1,200 x 2,400 dpi. This is made possible by a newly developed LED print head to write images on the photoreceptor drum instead of a traditional laser using motor driven rotating the polygon mirror, resulting in a more compact system with reduced noise.

Fuji Xerox's award-winning ApeosPort-III C3300 C2200 C2201

Sony Ericsson goes slider with new Cyber-shot variant

Users to stay connected with Friendster alerts

LG aircon models invade RP market

AMD to release 45nm server processor

Genius' digital photo frame

Mauriat speakers offer great listening experience

Cooling device for notebooks

Canon laser printers go small

CANON LAUNCHES ITS SMALLEST laser printers - the Laser Shot LBP3050 and LBP3150.

Measuring just 372 x 260 x 157mm and weighing 5.4 kilograms, the printers with a compact, sleek design should fit nicely in small work spaces.

The smart design dismisses the use of an extended tray as a practical space saving solution and the retractable output tray also doubles up as a dust cover when not in use.

Not one to compromise on printing efficiency, the Laser Shot LBP3050 prints at a rapid speed of 14 pages a minute and 16 ppm for the LBP3150.

The first printout is out in 8.5 seconds, a 15-percent increase in speed compared to previous models.

Achieve detailed, high quality monochrome prints up to 2400 x 600 resolution, made possible with Canon's Automatic Image Refinement Technology (AIR).

LASER Shot LBP3050

With a U shaped paper pass for smooth passage of printed sheets, possibilities of annoying paper jams are reduced.

With no warm-up time on standby mode, both the Laser Shot LBP3050 and LBP3150 come with patented On-demand Fixing Technology, which allows for more efficient, time saving printouts with energy savings.

Couple that with Canon Advanced Printing Technology (CAPT 2.0), fast printing speed is achieved by utilizing the host computer to manage print jobs.

High Smart Compression Architecture (Hi-SCoA) then aids by compressing data to be delivered in manageable sizes, so less printer RAM is needed for processing.

This is a long term cost effective feature, as the Laser Shot LBP3050 and LBP3150 come with 2MB RAM built-in, with no further memory upgrades required.

LASER Shot LBP3150

But cost-saving features do not stop there.

The Laser Shot LBP3050 and LBP3150 consume a maximal 280W while printing and runs on only 2W while on standby and sleep modes.

An easy access frontal power switch is another energy saving feature, which visually reminds users to power off after each use.

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Soar above the rest at the
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MEGAWORLD

BUSINESS *Monday*

Why we spend the way we spend

Money, well-being and success

How to fight the urge to splurge

Is L'Oréal still worth it? Ask French hair salons

A new concept of entrepreneurship

MAPping the Future

[illegible]

Laudable traits

[illegible]

Iconic leader

[illegible]

Implications

[illegible]

ANI to expand its farms and markets

[illegible]

Why youth entrepreneurship matters

By Carl Schramm

[illegible]

[illegible]

Is L'Oréal still worth it? Ask French hair salons

From page B1

[illegible]

[illegible]

Sons carry on father's dream of a forest

'We saw how this land transformed, and the key to it was planting the right trees,' Wawel believed

THE FOREST Club between Barangay Pagapo and Barangay Masaya in Bay, Laguna

Indigenous

Ecofriendly

Group activities

The buzz about Bohol Bee Farm

CAC IS NAMED TO KIA'S ELITE ZENITH CLUB

KIA'S ZENITH CLUB AWARD

BUSINESS Monday

The buzz about Bohol Bee Farm

BUSINESS *Monday*

Doing twice as much for half the credit

AMADOU Diallo

African exec rises to top despite odds

Singer lands dream gig after two decades

Ritz Food to export overseas

Rex joins Google book search

PAL 'jumbo' jet's new look unveiled

Brentville launches a new world-class community:

The Arborage

The calm of nature and the elegance of urban living meet in the newest community of Brentville International, a fully-developed international community under the Filinvest Premiere brand.

The Arborage is the latest residential cluster in Brentville's growing community. The Arborage is a gateway to one's own tropical suburbia, where lush greens mix well with excellent residential development.

With The Arborage's wide open fields and lush pocket parks, jogging trails, unique lagoon park there is certainly no limit to fun for the entire family.

The Masterpieces Homes Collection

Aside from residential lots, The Arborage also offers homes that exude the art of world-class living. Aptly called the "Masterpieces," this collection which includes The Mona Lisa, The Madonna and The Diana collects like the majestic Italian Renaissance paintings from where the inspiration came from.

Each home brings out a sense of subtle sophistication, attuned with the neighborhood's Mediterranean theme. The living and sleeping areas are elegant, spacious and functional. The polished interiors are punctuated with towering windows and grand cathedral ceilings.

The Madonna (231-square meter)

Intricate detailing adorns three (3) bedrooms, two (2) toilets and bath, and a quaint powder room. Formal living and dining areas balance casual cool of the family room, balcony and lanai. An operative kitchen manages culinary activities of the home, while the service area supplements the demands of the main kitchen.

The Mona Lisa (166-square meters)

The Mona Lisa makes for a picturesque first home with its spacious living areas and sleeping quarters that accommodate the delicate needs of a growing family. One out of the

three (3) spacious bedrooms easily converts to another suite or a home office complemented by a balcony. Two (2) toilets and bath and a powder room are convenient for family members and guests alike. The formal living area is rounded off by a stately cathedral ceiling while the formal dining area is extended by a functional lanai.

The Diana (176-square meters)

Warmth and subtle sophistication characterize this house model where spaces encourage family interaction in a natural setting. The master suite is located on the ground floor for better convenience. The formal living and dining areas are contained beneath a grand cathedral ceiling, which finishes a lanai, hall, two (2) additional bedrooms, a powder room and service area.

World-class community

Other than green ways and open fields, residents of The Arborage can already enjoy world-class facilities and amenities such as the basketball and tennis courts, playgrounds, and the main clubhouse replete with its own swimming pool.

Home to different nationalities, Brentville is also a place of cultural diversity. Residents are presented with opportunities to learn and build friendships. Besides, Brent International School Manila is located inside the community.

Security and location

All these exclusive privileges can be yours while enjoying security and exclusivity at the same time. The Arborage is a safely gated community within a gated community. Aside from its 24-hour roving guards, Brentville also takes pride in its 3-level security protocol system.

Another prime advantage is Brentville's superior location. Located in the progressive town of Biñan, Laguna, Brentville is only a 15-minute drive from Alabang.

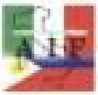
Brentville International is a world-class community under Filinvest Premiere and is developed by of one of the country's leading property developers, Filinvest Land, Inc. It offers a wide array of themed communities, conveniently located in various parts of the country to give buyers unlimited options and choice-driving experiences.

Experience world-class living at The Arborage and other cluster communities of Brentville. For inquiries, call 856-7788 / 885-7387 / 807-5511 or visit www.brentville.com.

Italy comes alive in Manila!

Piazza Italia

Associazione Italiani nelle Filippine



BUSINESS Monday

This one ain't feeling the pinch

CONVERGYS' Marife Zamora

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

ONE SECTOR THAT IS NOT FEELING AS pessimistic about its growth prospects over the next few years as the banks and real estate companies is the business process outsourcing industry.

Industry players believe that as top American and European companies desperately find ways to cut costs to stay afloat, they would be forced to ship jobs to countries like the Philippines where the people can do the same job at a fraction of the cost.

The outsourcing industry is already raking in $4 billion in revenues a year and the Business Processing Association of the Philippines (BPAP) believes that there is room for the industry to grow by as much as 40 percent more next year.

Industry leader Convergys shares the view of BPAP and country manager Marife Zamora discussed with the Inquirer in an interview her reasons to be optimistic despite the financial turmoil affecting the developed nations where the call centers derive the bulk of their business.

Q: Do you see the growth in the BPO industry slowing down given the financial crisis in the United States?

A: Convergys continues to see growth in the Philippines. Within five years, we have grown from zero to more than 14,000 employees in the Philippines and will continue to see growth in the next. For example, in May, Convergys announced the addition of five new integrated contact centers to be added throughout the country. We are also currently expanding several existing facilities to meet increased client demand.

Q: Where are the areas of possible growth?

A: As a leader in relationship management, we are continually looking for new opportunities to grow in order to benefit our clients and their customers. Right now, we are focused on opening and staffing Convergys' five new facilities within the coming months. The first facility, Cebu [illegible], was opened in September. We hope to open two sites in December—[illegible] Ayala Tech and Nuvali in Laguna. In April 2009, we also hope to open our Glorietta 5 facility in Makati and San Lazaro in Manila.

Q: When you go to the United States to court clients, what do you say are the reasons why they should trust the Philip-

TURN TO B4

PLDT smenation Count on me, partner. | Page 01

PLDT Watcher Gives You The Picture

For SMEs, the stakes are much higher when it comes to the success or failure of their businesses. It's their money and future on the line, anyway. The secret and longest-held wish most of them express is for the capability to "keep an eye on things at all times". Now PLDT SME Nation may have fulfilled that wish.

PLDT Watcher is a brilliant video monitoring solution that uses an IP Camera and bundled viewing software so that business owners can see their offices or sites through a laptop or PC connected by DSL or even a 3G mobile phone. Users can monitor multiple sites in one viewing. Other provisions include a motion detector fitted to up to 5 [illegible].

When activated, the motion detection prompts the system to auto record video images and email snapshots direct to the user. Ideal business sectors for Watcher include retail trade establishments, restaurants, hotels, corporate buildings, and condominiums. Some business owners may even opt to include the system for their private residences which may also double as home offices.

On a recent demonstration run, one major businessman showed us a live feed as it was being displayed on his 3G phone. The site was the construction area of a project he had commissioned; the arrangement he had with the contractor was for a 24-hour construction shift. The camera showed no workers or supervisors on site, instead it was dark and quiet. Immediately, he was able to reprimand the inattentive crew and probably saved himself a hefty amount in lost productivity and overbillings.

This was just one example representing a large untapped base of business owners who are still waiting every day for a reliable system that PLDT Watcher represents. Millions are lost everyday for each case of undetected theft, arson, pilferage or employees simply goofing off instead of working.

The entire system can be deployed rapidly, uses proven existing hardware and software, and is all anchored on the most robust PLDT network. As a web-enabled system, you can view your office site from wherever you are in the country or the world, for that matter.

"We can almost speculate on the [illegible] uncovered the biggest [illegible] when they were confronted by the businessman's video and snapshot evidence. It was so easy to get away with nearly anything until now. Watch out boys, there's a new Watcher in town."

(Above) Part of the groundbreaking PLDT Watcher package is an easy-to-use graphic interface which allows business owners to scan multiple sites of their office or buildings in one viewing. (Right) The PLDT Watcher IP Cam [illegible] capabilities such as a 1/4" Super CMOS sensor, 640 x 480 [illegible] up to 30FPS, built-in microphone, MPEG4 compression, motion detection, 802.11 b/g [illegible] and UPnP compliant

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[illegible]

People, Events & Products

Globe supports Foreign Chambers' trade fair

A GOOD FORTUNE FOR WORLD OF FENG SHUI 2009

DOT partners with MTV Asia for 2009 global campaign

FRENCH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MARKS 10 WITH WINE FEST

Fashion meets function

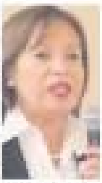
Investing on a healthy lifestyle

More PEP on page B-8

SAFE MEDICINES NETWORK SIGNS MOA

This one ain't feeling ...

[illegible]



ZAMORA says the outsourcing industry has room to grow.

Cell phone shopping makes wallets redundant

[illegible]

BUSINESS Monday

Food, drink seen strong amid retail blues

Holiday buzz

Turkey or ham!

DOST advocates technological interventions to boost SMEs

Bank wins Quill for annual report

LIFESTYLE Arts & Books

Editor Thelma Sioson San Juan   Arts and Books Editor Lito B. Zulueta

Lost Luna work found; to be auctioned off by Christie's

"LAS DAMAS Romanas": Luna's rediscovered artwork has a starting bid price of over $1 million.

By Lito B. Zulueta

A WORK BY THE OLD PRE-war Filipino master Juan Novicio Luna (1857-1899), believed to have been lost and missing for over a century, has surfaced and will be auctioned off by Christie's during its Fall sale of Southeast Asian Modern & Contemporary Art on Nov. 30, in Hongkong, the auction house has announced.

"The recovery of an important and beautiful Luna will surely cause a stir on our art scene," Ramon Orlina told the Inquirer. (Orlina's sculptures are among those to be auctioned off.)

The found work is "Las Damas Romanas" (Roman Maidens), which will have a floor price of HK$8,000,000-10,000,000 or US$1,025,600-1,282,000.

Christie's touts the auction of the painting will surely be one of the highlights of the bidding.

"This extraordinary work was, until only recently, presumed lost as its whereabouts were unknown over a century since it was painted," the auction house notes. "Its reappearance on the market now makes it one of only a small number of paintings, watercolors and oils by Luna that have surfaced in the past quarter of a century."

Documentation on the work is scant. It was noted in the 1957 biography of Luna by Carlos E. Da Silva, and appeared as a faded black and white photograph from the file of the present art dealer and historian [illegible], which was reproduced by art historian and teacher Santiago Pilar in "Juan Luna: The Filipino as Painter," published by the Eugenio Lopez Foundation in 1980.

The painting is an oil on canvas, [illegible]. It is signed and dated "Luna Roma 1882" at the lower right.

Like "Spoliarium," Luna's most famous mural showing the corpses of a Roman gladiator being dragged to a chamber under the coliseum, "Damas" is also drawn from ancient Roman history but its elements are cheerful.

It shows two maidens on the steps of a building, one with her back reclining on a Roman pillar and the other, partly supine, holding on her hand, two frisky dogs trying to chase doves which are all around them, creating a merry scene of zest and languor. In the background is what appears to be a small shrine with incense smoke rising.

Allegory?

In his notes to the Christie's catalogue, Ambeth Ocampo, historian and chair of the National Historical Institute, wrote: "Should 'Las Damas Romanas' be taken at face value? Is it but a typical [illegible] of scene in ancient Rome or does it have deeper, hidden meanings? [illegible] much like "Spoliarium," which Filipino propagandists and contemporaries of Luna in Madrid said was an allegory of the sufferings of Filipinos under colonial Spain.

Ocampo takes particular note of the probable symbolic value of the doves, which he says, in ancient Rome, were given [illegible]. "So, is this an allegory of [illegible] love?"

Ocampo adds that there have been observations that the dark woman with the [illegible] resembles Paz Pardo de Tavera, Luna's wife whom he shot and killed in Paris, in 1892, in a fit of jealousy.

In the painting, despite its cheerful scene, Luna's way of painting his perception of his wife as a flirt?

"What unfortunately," Ocampo notes, "Luna was not married when he painted 'Las Damas' in 1882. He had not even seen his future wife at the time."

Luna did the work while he was a student of the Spanish Academy in Rome. It was completed between his prize-winning works "Death of Cleopatra," a silver medal in the Madrid Exposition of 1881; and "Spoliarium" which garnered the first gold medal in the Madrid Exposition of 1884. "Las Damas

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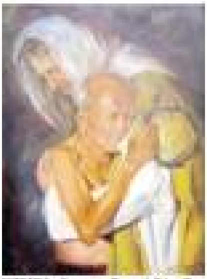


JOEY VELASCO IN THE UNITED STATES

Best for the least

JOEY VELASCO, THE PAINTER who depicted Jesus Christ sharing a meal with poor children of Manila in a modern-day setting, is now exhibiting in the United States. Fifteen of his works are on exhibit at the American Grand Hotel in Los Angeles and in San Diego.

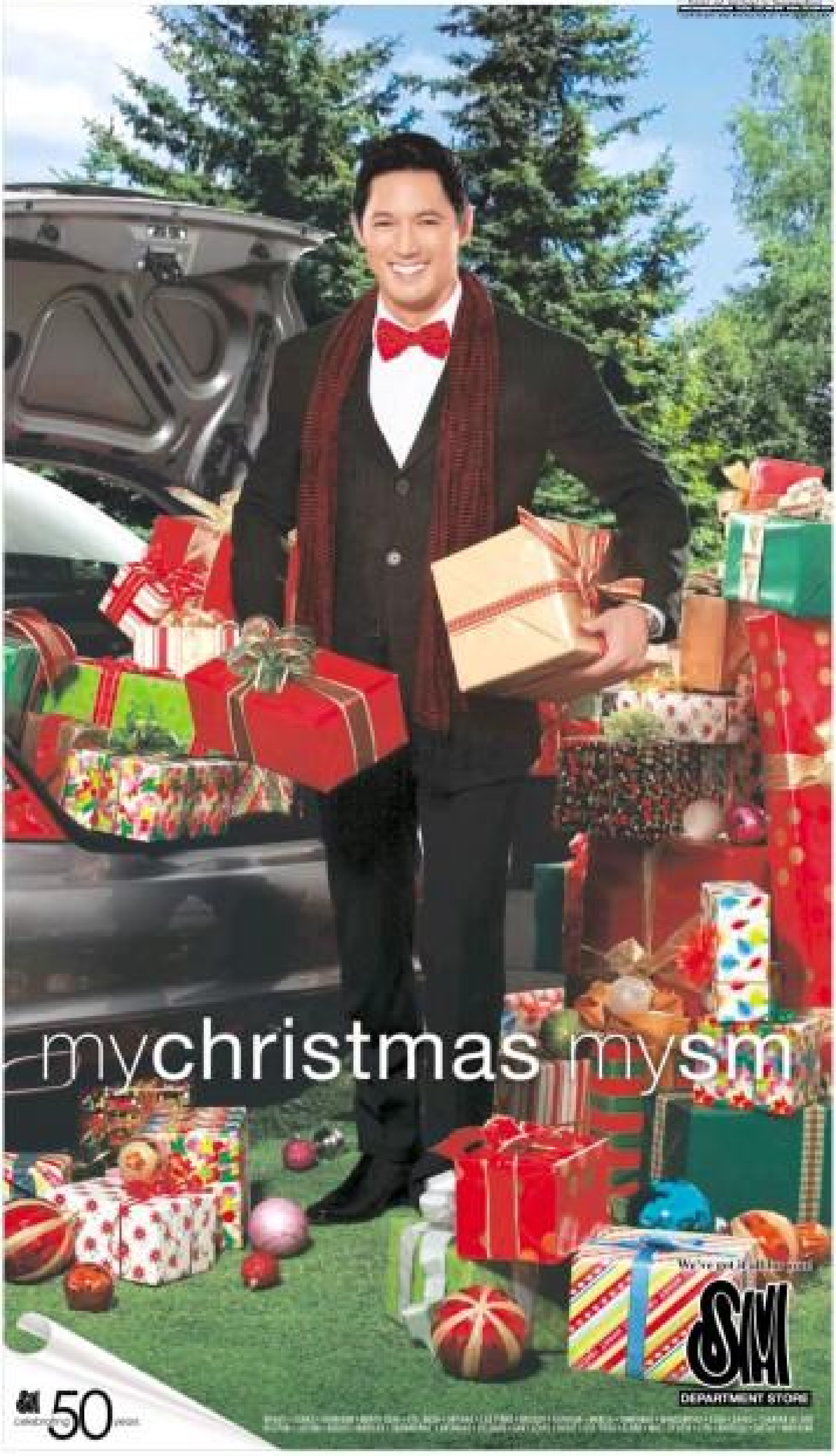
THE ARTIST in his studio

Lost Luna work found . . .

The visual and the literary form an art cycle

Romantic portraits

Finely rendered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LifeStyle Arts&Books

Sansò's hypnotic 'Dawnscapes' draws from theater arts

Rare exhibit features a technique the artist has evolved from his years as an opera designer in Europe

By Lito B. Zulueta

TO MARK HIS 70TH BIRTHDAY, Juvenal Sansò has gone back to an art technique whose roots date back to the 1970s when he was a scenographer for some of the most exciting opera productions in Europe.

He calls the technique "reverse painting." "Simply because it's done on a black canvas," he explains. It's a painstaking layering of color over black canvas. The objective is to "approximate the lighting conditions of the theater," which is an effect the artist finds dramatic, fascinating, and "hypnotic."

The acrylic paintings will be exhibited in "Dawnscapes," which opens Nov. 21, 7 p.m. at the 2/L, Podium Mall along ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center. The show is organized by Galerie Joaquin Podium (tel. 7329232 to

Art of the scenographer

PRIDE OF PLACE

Augusto F. Villalón

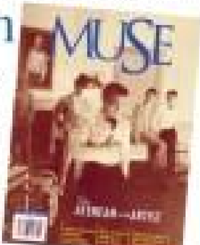
WATERCOLOR, pen and ink rendering of the Art Deco Room for "The Harlem Nutcracker"

Eye-opener

True delight

Art mag wins citation

By Dexter R. Matilla
Contributor

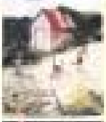


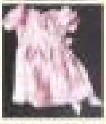
Haven for the arts and art activities

Antiques

VISUAL ARTS

Tapaya, Cruz-Garcia at West

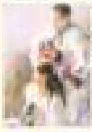




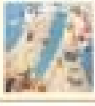
Aquino at Crucible

One Hand at De las Islas

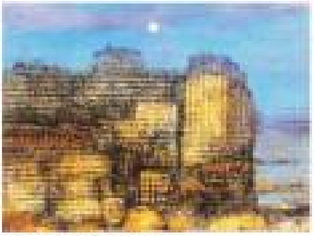
Rocha, Sena at Eastwood



Esquillo at Tin-Aw



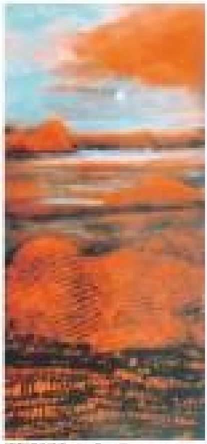
Sansò's hypnotic 'Dawnscapes' draws from theater arts



"ETHEREAL Realm," acrylic on paper

"A SACRED Place," acrylic on canvas

Expressionism



"ECHOING Passion," acrylic on canvas

THE SHANG'S Art Plaza

Haven for the arts and art activities

SHANGRI-LA PLAZA IS HOME TO EXHIBITS, cultural shows, painting sessions, workshops and [illegible].

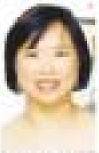
Stepping into the Shang Art Plaza, one immediately feels a different vibe. It is young, fresh and pulsating with energy. Creativity, after all, knows no age limit, and Shang's Art Plaza is the space where art, artists and art lovers converge. It is no surprise then that the gallery owners there, where are every bit as interesting and unique as the art pieces that grace their shops.

Aerial Vic Salta of Artistree was once a disc jockey for a pop station and a director and vice president of a record company. He also dabbled in TV production. After retiring at the age of 48, Vic started sponsoring his friends' exhibits, which eventually led to the inception of Artistree.

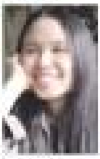
Salta has championed young and awarded new Filipino artists such as Parker & Nina, Tim Edmunds, Ricky Buzon, Yuka Valero and Misty Javier. "I like having a mix of the very young and the very old, so we also have Philippine masters available here like Fernando Amorsolo, [illegible], Botong Francisco and Miguel Zaragoza. Ed Castrillo and Impy Pilapil creations are also available in Artistree," he said.

Twenty-year-old Sarah Alcantara, manager of Art Circle Gallery, comes from a family of art connoisseurs. Even at a young age, she is already dedicated to creating an enticing artistic environment for everyone who enjoys all forms of art.

HAVEN D2



SUMMIT Gallery's [illegible] the Art Plaza to house her treasures.

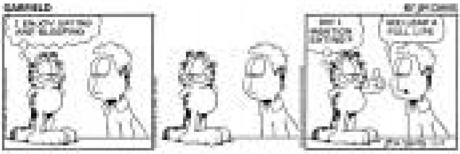


ART CIRCLE Gallery's Sarah Alcantara comes from a family of art connoisseurs.

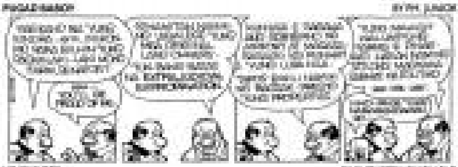
Manuel Conde's magnificent cinematic legacy

Colorful

GARFIELD

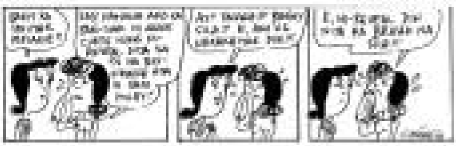


PUGAD BABOY

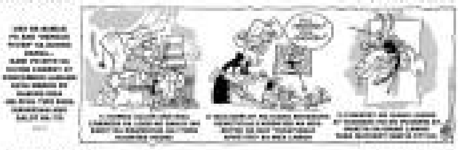


DICK TRACY

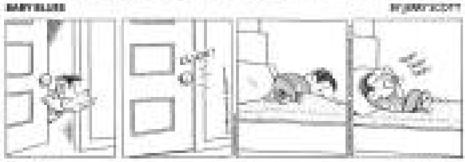
LOVEKNOTS

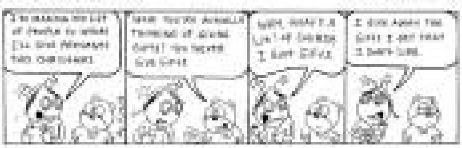


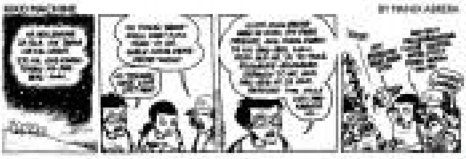
JAMES BOND

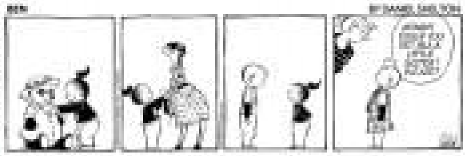


BABY BLUES

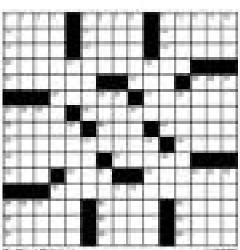


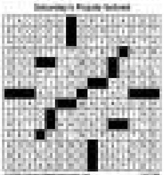






DAILY CROSSWORD





HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCES DRAKE

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

9	8				6			4
		3	8		9	1		7
	6			4			8	
3	4						7	
		1		8		2		
	2						1	9
	9			6			5	
7		8	4		2	3		
5			7				4	2

Difficulty Level ●

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

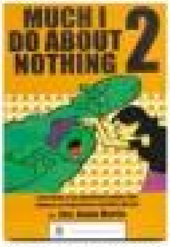
Manuel Conde's magnificent cinematic legacy

Social comment

Cultural studies

WITH Elvira Reyes, production design by Carlos "Botong" Francisco

Zany book on annulments



The novels of Jeffrey Archer

Artists' 'tiangge' to raise funds for welfare support

By Amadis Ma. Guerrero
Contributor

> Artist Welfare Project seeks to create an endowment fund to provide members medical and legal assistance, emergency loans, pension and death benefits

CONSIDER THE case of Tony Fabella, the well-known dancer and prolific choreographer.

For decades he has trained many young dancers, first for the Alice Reyes Modern Dance Company and then its successor Ballet Philippines, giving selflessly of himself, as they say. He choreographed many ballet productions, which served to launch the careers of noted dancers today.

Now Fabella is teaching street children in Quezon City how to dance, and in the process, discovering many talents among the underprivileged youths who were not aware that they had the potential to become artists.

And then, somewhere along the way Fabella was diagnosed with stage 1 cancer, causing consternation among his friends. One of his former students, dancer-choreographer Edna Vida, decided to help by announcing his condition in her blog.

The response was tremendous. Friends here and abroad raised funds, a considerable amount of money, and Fabella's cancer went into remission. It was a success story but unfortunately, the choreographer contracted a disorder of the heart, aneurysm, and now his friends are raising money for him again.

Fabella's protégé, the young dancer Bergin Toledo, also was stricken with cancer. Again there were appeals for financial assistance but it was too late to save him, for the cancer had reached stage 4. He passed away last year.

The plight of Fabella and Toledo was cited by Vida during the recent first press lunch of the Artist Welfare Project Inc. (Awpi) at the MBP Hall of the Cultural Center of the Philippines.

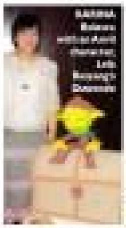
Formed in 2006, the Awpi's immediate concern is to create an endowment fund to provide members with benefits such as medical and legal assistance, emergency loans, pension and death benefits, among others. Its vision is "a community of Filipino artists and cultural workers whose basic welfare benefits are guaranteed." There are currently 102 members.

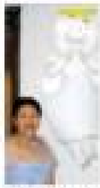
ARTISTS/F5

Move over, all mascots with no stories to tell

Presenting life-size characters from RP kiddie books

Top 25

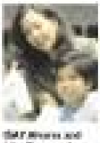




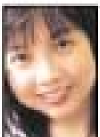
Distinction

Artists' 'tiangge' to raise funds ...

Isay Alvarez and Nestor Torre come full circle in the new musical 'Cory'



Russian pianist Katya Grineva in Manila



She will perform, along with soprano Johanna Go, on Nov. 19, 8 p.m., at the CCP Main Theater

Dulaang UP presents Floy Quintos play on Atang de la Rama

'Paulus Oratorio' in St. Paul's annual concert

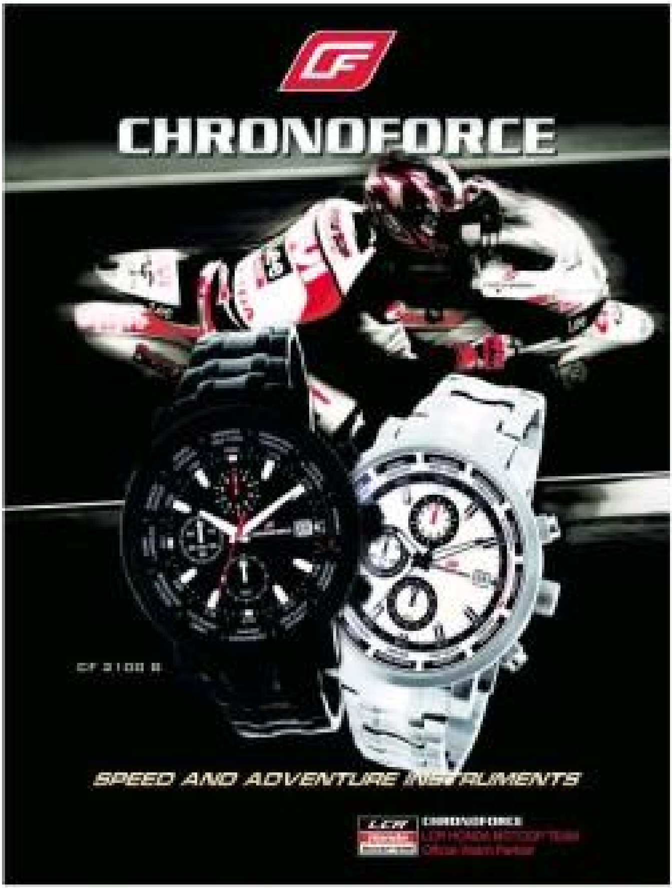
THIS YEAR BEING THE BI-CENtennial of St. Paul, the annual St. Cecilia's Concert of St. Scholastica School of Music is presenting the 'Paulus Oratorio' of Felix Mendelssohn.

ARTURO Molina

MALOU Y Hermo

Stellar cast for Rep's 'A Christmas Carol'

Miriam presents the musical 'Amihan'



ENTERTAINMENT

Back in the groove

[illegible]

Jomari a big fan of Pops and Martin

[illegible]

DOLLY WOOD

Dolly Anne Carvajal

[illegible]

Piolo's blog

[illegible]

Good boy

[illegible]

Waiting game

[illegible]

Jomari a big fan of Pops and Martin

I don't need to go under the knife– Gretchen

No surgery

Guess list

All that jazz

Women achievers

Hot OPM acts

A summit against all odds

Indie filmmakers take an unflinching look at the challenges confronting stakeholders

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

THE FIRST PHILIPPINE Independent Film Summit allowed stakeholders to tackle diverse issues, particularly the challenge of finding an audience in an increasingly competitive market.

[illegible]

INQUIRER EXCLUSIVE

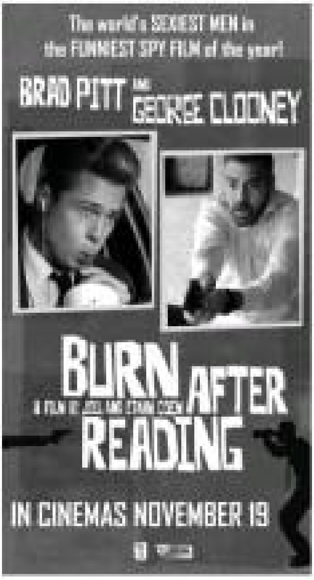
[illegible]

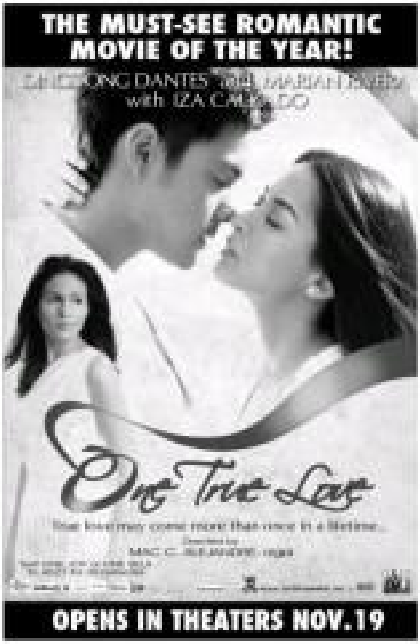
Oversupply

[illegible]

Central booking agency

[illegible]





"THE LP sounds more real and alive—warmer, fuller, more dynamic," says Hansen Dy, right, manager of a high-end home entertainment retail store.

The turntable...

From page G1

"This would sound totally awful on CD," said Hansen Dy, manager of a home entertainment systems retailer, as he put Louis Armstrong's version of "Hello Dolly!" on a phonograph player using top-of-the-line components consisting of foreign-branded turntable, pre-amps, power amps, speakers, etc.

Overlooked

What Dy meant was that the record, which first came out in 1964, had a mono (as opposed to stereo) sound, and hearing it on CD would somehow diminish its raw texture and ambiance. "The sound of LPs is more real and alive—warmer, fuller, more dynamic," Dy explained. "It's because the engineers who developed the CD overlooked something ... the mechanism is too simplified, giving submarine-ring frequency and [illegible] original studio recording."

Another record that Dy played, Bobby McFerrin's "Don't Worry, Be Happy" (from the "Simple Pleasures" album) further illustrated distinct sounds that would likely go unappreciated on CD.

Buzzword

As the Inquirer asked more people in the scene why they liked listening to LPs, one word kept popping as a descriptive: "warm"—as in, the warm sound that the CD couldn't duplicate.

"Mellowing ... it's like being cradled on your mother's bosom. The CD sound is antiseptic and cold," said events organizer Tony de Leon, who was in high school when he became part of Social Distortion, a group that supplied the music and sound system to dance parties in the early '80s.

Apparently, it was the DJs in clubs and parties that kept vinyl records from fading out of the scene.

Not cheap

Now 42 and the owner of some 2,000 LPs, De Leon said it takes a lot of money to put good quality equipment together and enjoy playing vinyl

SEE TURNTABLE, G5

A RECORD collector browses through stacks of vinyl LPs on sale at the "HiFi" show.

records.

Pointing to his room's centerpiece display, the one that was playing "Hello Dolly" earlier in one of the 27 rooms booked for the HiFi show, Uy said: "This would cost US$300,000 ... and that's a conservative estimate."

Uy added: "But an entry-level sound system can be cheap, like P30,000."

In the next room, another group of audiophiles showed us their own "do-it-yourself" set of vintage equipment. Business partners Jose Abad Santos and Bob Pilapil described their rig, pegged at P1.2 million, as "comparable to those found in the world's leading entertainment capitals."

In room

Violinist Joseph Bonilla, now based in New York and still active playing with international orchestras, is in town for the holidays. He joined the event to show his self-designed vintage audio gear. The music he was playing, an album of duets by Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Armstrong, was likewise in mono. "I designed the system to capture the authentic sound of the record," Bonilla said. "I want it to be historically correct."

Congressman Jack Duavit and cousin Keith Ong was in another room to exhibit their own equipment, which was playing Enya. How much did they spend? "Over P1M," Ong answered.

Basic system

We were not surprised to ask how simple folk could afford to listen to LPs again these days, when De Leon said, "You can start with your own basic system for P5,000. Just follow one of Joseph Bonilla's designs."

That's more like it. Chancing upon a copy of the Rolling Stones' "Some Girls" LP that was on sale for P300, plus a few other rock releases and one Sinatra classic, we were excited to join the back-to-vinyl club... maybe we should start saving up by riding the Jeepney more often to work.

The turntable spins anew

EVENT organizer Tony de Leon owns some 2,000 LPs.

VIOLINIST Joseph Esmilla designs vintage audio systems.

By [illegible]
Photo by [illegible]

[illegible]

INQUIRER EXCLUSIVE

IN 1982, THE release of Billy Joel's "52nd Street" on CD, along with the arrival of the first Sony CD player, was regarded as the "Big Bang" of the digital audio revolution.

It also signaled the impending death of the vinyl or "Long Play" (LP) record. But 26 years later, the LP is not only alive, it continues to spin—and is gaining more fans and converts.

In January 2008, Time magazine [illegible] ... young listeners discovered LPs after they sifted through their parents' collections [illegible]

[illegible]

Nielsen reports nearly a million vinyl LPs bought last year

The story quoted David MacRonnell, 15, a high school sophomore from [illegible] ... "[illegible] iPod has had an impact on a lot of people going back to vinyl."

Rolling Stone confirmed the phenomenon in its June 2008 issue: "As CD sales continue to decline and MP3s are traded without thought, the left-for-dead LP is staging a comeback. In 2007, according to Nielsen SoundScan, nearly 1 million LPs were bought, up from 858,000 in 2006. [illegible]

[illegible]

Early this month, the Inquirer visited the "HiFi Show," an annual event at the [illegible] ... collecting vinyl. The gathering has since transformed into a grand showcase of the best analog and digital audio equipment, including those assembled by professional technicians, plus, of [illegible]

THE TURNTABLE G8

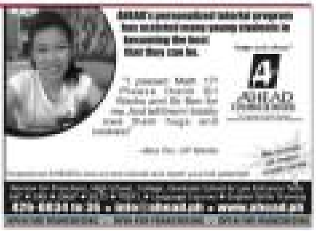
VACUUM tube amplifiers, never found in today's digital lingo, on display at the "HiFi" show.

FILM on the deaf: Signs of the times! H3

SCHOOLS to collect village stories to fill their websites! H4

LEARNING

IE Lesson Plan Contest winner for October to be announced next Monday. Submit your entries for November and December.



How schools can save themselves

By Cecil Estrada
Contributor

WHAT IMPACT does the current global crisis have on education, an industry widely considered as not-for-profit? How does the education sector remain service-oriented without going bankrupt in such difficult economic conditions?

Energy-saving

Wiser use of supplies

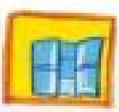
Where leadership comes in

Getting help

Seminar for schoolowners and principals

SCHOOL administrators from various parts of the country have benefited from LESSM's unique approach to school management training.

Reading Expo 2008 set for Nov. 22



INFORMATICS and Microsoft executives (seated, from left) Leo Bingus and Rafael Roldan (standing, from left) Stephen Barlonia, Charlyne Ebanan, Kat Arancelo-Monsod, Yolanda Sollorano, Michelle Cadiz and Arvy Barcelona

Informatics gets new partner in IT education

INFORMATICS Philippines will now offer Microsoft information technology professional and developer courses. Students will get an official Microsoft certification through the Microsoft IT Academy Program. Informatics will have access to Microsoft curriculum and cutting-edge software for its training courses. The Microsoft IT Academy Program is an internationally recognized curriculum standards for businesses and schools set globally. Education tools are also available online and can be used for blended learning (classroom plus online). Visit the nearest Informatics center for more details on Microsoft certification courses.

Miriam hosts heads of Asian women's colleges, universities

MIRIAM COLLEGE is holding the first Regional Networking Conference of Presidents of Women's Colleges and Universities in Asia on Nov. 18-20. Heads of different women's colleges and universities in Asia will discuss issues and challenges women's higher education institutions are facing. It also aims to formalize the creation of the first Asian Network of Women's Universities and Colleges (Anwuc) that will advance the aspirations of young women in the region through the development of quality education. Attending the conference are heads of higher educational institutions for women in Bangladesh, China, India, Iran, Japan, Pakistan, South Korea and the Philippines.

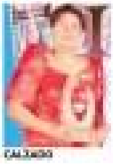
FISCHER'S first job in the Philippines was in Baguio City.

CIS' new head is a 'balikbayan'

CEBU INTERNATIONAL School's new superintendent Evelyn Fischer is a veteran educator with 30 years of experience as a teacher and administrator. Fischer was deputy head for academics at Brent School in Baguio in 1998-2002. Before becoming director of CIS, she was director of the International School of Ulaanbaatar in Mongolia. She also worked in ISKS, Beijing, China and Trinity College and Whyalla High School in South Australia. Fischer received her Diploma of Teaching and Masters of Education in Curriculum and Administration at the Deakin University in Australia in 2002. CIS is the only international school in the Philippines with three accreditations: Philippine Accrediting Association of Schools, Colleges and Universities, Council of International Schools and Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

JRU hosts seminar on teaching strategies

THE ASSOCIATION of Private School Administrators-Mandaluyong (APSA-M), with the Rex Publishing Company, sponsored a seminar on "Teaching Strategies and Classroom Management" at the Jose Rizal University Review Center. Coordinators of different subject areas in private schools in Mandaluyong attended the seminar. Professor Amparo Valdez was guest lecturer. Dr. Ma. Cristina F. Bato, JRU vice president for basic education, gave the welcome remarks. The seminar was the second in a series of lectures being sponsored by APSA-M as part of its administrators and faculty development plans.



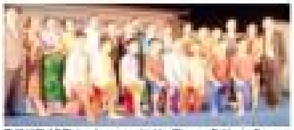
CALZADO

Sacred Heart teacher gets Excellence award

LUZVIMINDA R. CALZADO, Sacred Heart College's assistant principal for lower basic education, received the very first National Teaching Excellence Award from the Center of Educational Measurement (CEM) to mark its 50th year. The award pays tribute to the teachers' contribution to enhancement of student learning. Calzado, who has been teaching for 33 years, received a trophy and P50,000 cash. As one of 11 finalists from 800 schools, she received a certificate and P10,000 cash. Calzado received the 2008 Most Outstanding Teacher Award from the Lucena Diocesan Catholic Schools Association (Ludcasa). A total of 25 schools from Quezon province participated.

UST holds int'l trade, economics confab

THE RESEARCH CLUSTER on Culture, Education and Social Issues of the University of Santo Tomas, in cooperation with the Copenhagen Business School Department of Economics and the Kiel Institute for the World Economy, will host the 10th annual conference on "Dynamics, Economic Growth and International Trade on Nov. 14-15, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., at the Thomas Aquinas Research Complex, UST. Keynote speakers include Prof. Hirofumi Uzawa of Japan, Dr. Gonzalo Capulong of the Asian Development Bank and Prof. Gerald F. Russo of the University of Hawaii. The conference is open to faculty members and graduate students in economics, business and finance for a fee of P300 each. Call Dr. Alvin Ang at 7315500 or 4061611 loc. 8580, or e-mail [illegible]@gmail.com.



THE KISLAP Sining dancers, with Ms. Theresa E. Menin, Byung H. Suh and Dr. Larry A. Gabao, pose in front of Theme Park Hotel, Bucheon City, South Korea.

PNU dance troupe impresses Koreans

THE KISLAP SINING Dance Troupe of the Philippine Normal University performed at the 2008 World Intangible Cultural Heritage Expo in Bucheon City, South Korea, on the invitation of city mayor Hong Gun-Pyo. The month-long event featured sister cities of Bucheon around the world. As its sister city in the Philippines, Valenzuela, recommended the PNU dance troupe to represent the Philippines. The Kislap Sining capped their performances with the Tinikling. PNU officials headed by president Lutgardo B. Barbo gave the group a warm welcome upon its return.

UA&P's annual procession on Nov. 28

THE UNIVERSITY OF ASIA and the Pacific (UA&P) will hold the traditional in-campus Eucharistic Procession on Nov. 28, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. The theme is "Eucharist: Source of Charity." First held in 2005, the UA&P Eucharistic Procession was initially a response to the call of then Pope John Paul II to "cultivate a lively awareness of Christ's real presence in the Holy Eucharist." It has since become a highly anticipated event for the UA&P community, as they adore Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. The procession traditionally proceeds from the UA&P Studio Oriente Oratory where a priest, bearing the Holy Eucharist in a monstrance, leads the university community to the altars set up in different parts of the campus. The event is capped by prayers and hymns. Call 6370912 loc. 342.

TIP Manila students top quiz show

THE TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE of the Philippines Manila EE Quizzers were champions in the recent 2008 IIEE 33rd Regional Quiz Show and IIEE 9th Regional Math Wizard. The TIP EE Quiz team was also champion last year in the IIEE Regional Quiz Show and first runner up in the IIEE Regional Math Wizard. It was champion in the IIEE 31st National Quiz Show and second runner up in the 7th IIEE National Math Wizard. At left are TIP's participants in the regional quiz show: Engineer Pedigo, Jesus Fupinia, Mark Jefferson Diaz, Jerez Cabingon and Mark Joseph Rodas with faculty coach engineer Harold Bentis. At right are participants in the Regional Math Wizard, Fedigo, Fupinia, and Diaz with faculty coach engineer Jeffrey Landicho.

PWU producing alumni directory for 90th year

THE PHILIPPINE WOMEN'S University will launch a comprehensive alumni directory in February 2009 as part of the celebration of its 90th founding anniversary. It will provide profile information on graduates from all levels and different campuses and centers. Yellow pages will list services and businesses of alumni and associates. The PWU Alumni Relations Office invites all alumni to update their personal/professional data. Contact Beth Hernandez at 5268751 or pwhernandez@yahoo.com or Emily Chia at 5268813 or ady_emilyc@yahoo.com. PWU will have an anniversary grand ball and reunion on Feb. 21, 2009, 6 p.m., at Sofitel Hotel, Roxas Blvd., Manila. Contact [illegible], or [illegible]@yahoo.com, tel. 5268761 or [illegible]@yahoo.com.

IAME president invited to World Forum

EMMANUEL "Sir Noli" Santos, founder-president and chair-chief executive officer of the International Academy of Management and Economics (IAME), has been invited to make a presentation at the World Forum on June 28-July 4, 2009 in Washington D.C. The World Forum Federation has conferred on Santos the rank of ambassador to represent the Philippines. IAME and the Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) are at the Noli Santos International Tower, 1001 Metropolitan Ave., Makati City, website www.iame.edu.ph.

Ateneo alumni group organizes job expo

THE ATENEO Alumni Association (AAA) and JobsDB.com are holding "The Best for The Best: The AAA Career Expo 2008 on Nov. 22-23 at the Blue Eagle Gym, Ateneo Grade School covered courts, Loyola Heights, Quezon City. The expo is open to Ateneo alumni, students, families and friends. It lines up with some notable groups like the Philippine Long Distance Telephone group of companies, Ayala group of companies, Universal Robina Corporation, Filway Marketing, ABS-CBN, Petron Corporation, Unilever, Rizal Commercial Banking Corporation, Philippine Seven Corporation, Development Bank of the Philippines. Visit www.ateneoalumniassociation.org for online registration or call the AAA office at 4266001 loc. 4687-88 for more information.

[illegible] says her hope is to show options—both for the deaf and society.

Text and photo by Jose Victoria
Contributor

AT THE PREVIEW OF Mi-ranaomedina's new documentary "Silent Odyssey" it seemed a cosmic joke was played. The film has no sound.

Presented at the De La Salle College of St. Benilde (DLS-CSB), "Silent Odyssey" was the first documentary about the Filipino deaf community.

[illegible]

Beautiful sight

[illegible]

Right to choose

[illegible]

"Silent Odyssey" will have screenings on Nov. 19 and 20, SDA Auditorium, DLS-CSB [illegible]

Convergys director for employee engagement [illegible] and Sa Aklat Sisikat executive director [illegible] hand over books to the Tomas Morato Elementary School through principal [illegible] (center).

Reading and mentoring programs

MORE THAN 14,000 EMPLOYEES OF Convergys celebrated the fifth year of its local operations through various community outreach projects.

[illegible]

Seminars on English Language teaching set

IN LINE WITH ITS ADVOCACY TO PROMOTE reading and teaching education in the country, Anvil Publishing, [illegible] National Bookstore, Cengage Learning and the British Council [illegible]

[illegible]

A web of myths, folklore, tales

Text and photos by Linda B. Bolido

In generating more materials for digital school sites, Smart is also helping preserve tradition

IN ALMOST every village in every town, there are legends and myths, traditions and folklore. There are stories about how places got their names, how popular provinces got named, or how rivers, lakes, mountains or some other important landmarks originated.

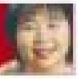
REPRESENTATIVES of Smart partner schools listen to Ramon R. Isberto (right photo) discuss the "Doon po sa Amin" project.

Stories of home

Centerpiece

Confidence makes a child a good learner

EUREKA! Queena N. Lee-Chua



Proud to be Jubilarians

Fringe benefits

Doing the triathlon

Adopting a special child

Pioneer

A suitable setting for hospitality students